

Annotation

The Newsletter of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission

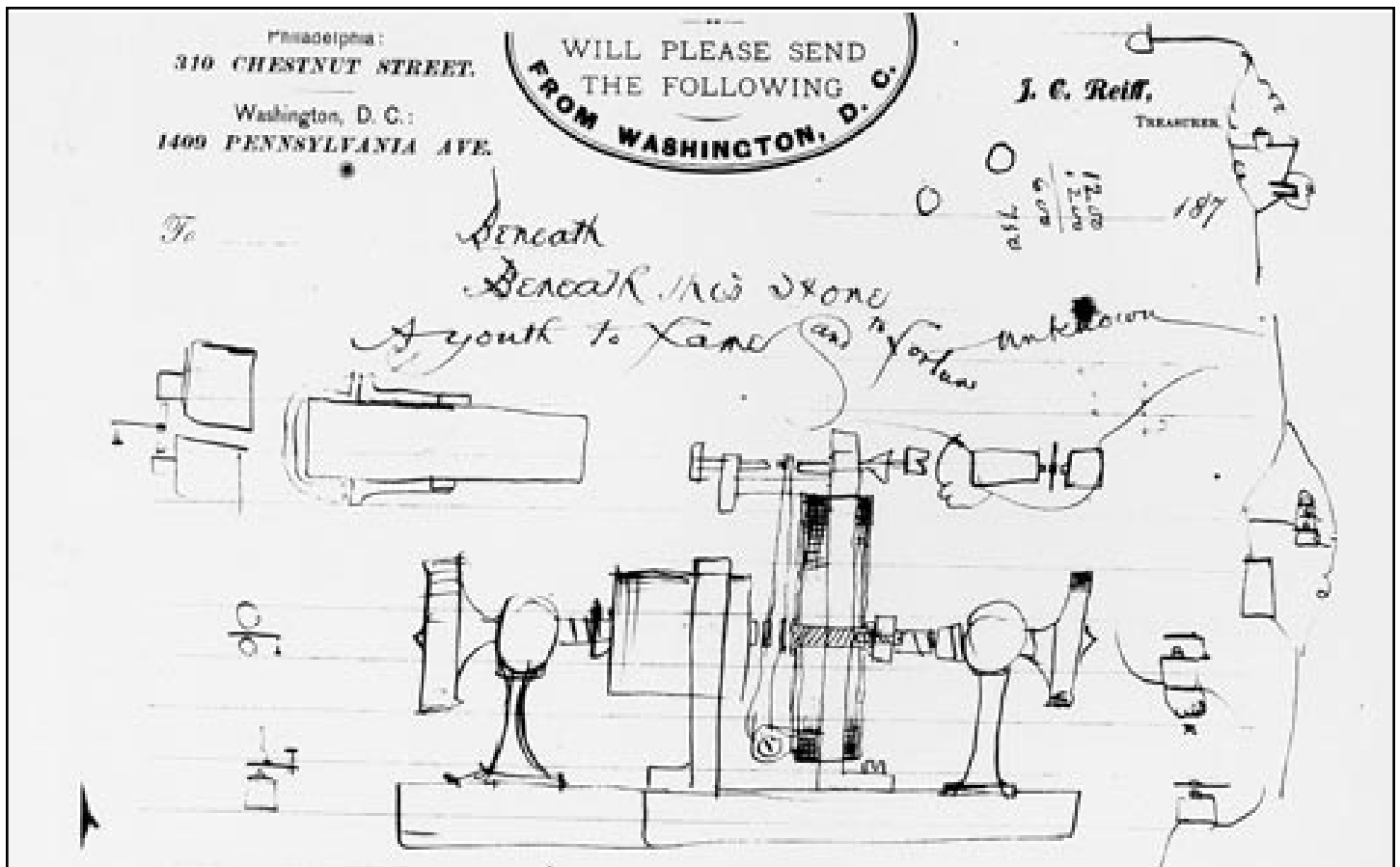


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Celebrating the Triumphs of American Technology



This undated sketch, probably from 1874, documents Thomas A. Edison's work on an instrument that was to be part of his quadruplex telegraph, a system that could send two messages each way simultaneously on a single wire. Typical of Edison's technical work, the sketch also has miscellaneous drawings of other circuit components, scribbled calculations, and even an offhand—but perhaps revealing—literary reference. “Beneath this stone/A youth to fame and to fortune unknown” is the 27-year-old Edison's paraphrase of lines from Thomas Gray's “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard”: “Here rests his Head upon the Lap of Earth/A Youth to Fortune and to Fame unknown.” This drawing was collected into a scrapbook (Cat. 297) in the 1870s and is one of the five million pages at the Edison National Historic Site in West Orange, NJ, being scrutinized and edited by the Thomas A. Edison Papers, a project for which the NHPRC has provided support and encouragement. It is on the Edison Papers microfilm, reel 5, frame 904 (University Publications of America, 1985-). The ENHS archive, in the care of the National Park Service, is the principal repository of Edison documents, although several tens of thousands of pages are scattered in other locations. Photo courtesy U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, Edison National Historic Site. Articles on technological matters begin on page 5.

From the Editor

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Annotation is the newsletter of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), a Federal agency within the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, DC. Recipients are encouraged to republish, with appropriate credit, any materials appearing in *Annotation*. Inquiries about receiving *Annotation*, submitting material for it, or anything else related to it may be directed to the Editor, *Annotation*, NHPRC, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 106, Washington, DC 20408-0001, (202) 501-5610 (voice); (202) 501-5601 (fax); nhprc@arch1.nara.gov (e-mail); <<http://www.nara.gov/nara/nhprc/>> (World Wide Web).

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Welcome to the new *Annotation*. No, we haven't switched to a Series 2, as some publications do when major changes in policy take place. The masthead looks pretty much the same; in fact, the only physical difference you'll notice in this issue from past ones is that we've expanded to 16 pages from 12. Our changes are more subtle (we hope).

The first change you might have noticed is that we have given this issue an overall title, "Celebrating the Triumphs of American Technology." That title reflects the theme of this issue, within which you'll find stories on electronic records projects funded by the Commission; on the publication of the papers of Joseph Henry, one of the giants of American scientific and technological research in the 19th century; and on the Ohio State Historical Records Advisory Board's current strategic plan, which in part supports the establishment of a state electronic records archive. We hope to focus future issues of *Annotation* around such common themes.

The second change reflects the Commission's new strategic plan, which goes into effect in fiscal year 1999. The new plan emphasizes three principal NHPRC missions: to plan and carry out programs that strengthen the nation's archival infrastructure and expand the range of records protected and accessible through collaboration with the states, to provide leadership in funding research and development on the preservation and use of electronic records, and to carry on the Commission's support of projects to gather and publish historical documents that enrich our understanding of the nation's past.

The third change is one in spirit. We want *Annotation* to convey more information to you about the Commission's activities. The Commission is, has been, and will continue to be a major force in the preservation of America's documentary heritage and in making that heritage available to the public. The purpose of *Annotation* is to keep you informed about the Commission's work, and about the work of the projects the Commission supports. As always, we welcome your comments or questions.

Dane Hartgrove
Editor

NHPRC Funding Increased

The Congress and President Clinton have approved legislation giving the NHPRC \$5.5 million in grant funds for fiscal year 1998. The appropriation for NHPRC grants, contained in an appropriations bill for the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, increases NHPRC funding by \$500,000. The appropriation was accompanied by a recommendation that the NHPRC consider a grant of \$100,000 to the Alaska gold rush records inventory and access project, a statewide cooperative community effort to identify and process such records in connection with the celebration of the centennial of the Alaska Gold Rush of 1898.

On the Document Trail of Lewis and Clark

by Roger A. Bruns, Acting Executive Director

Ken Burns' recent documentary film on PBS, *Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery*, stirred for me various thoughts—from the story itself, one of the most compelling in American history, to the challenge to the film maker in creating a visual representation of a subject for which no contemporary film images or photographs are available. Mostly, though, I thought about the documents.

I thought about Lewis and some of the others painstakingly recording, for over 2½ years, data and observations from every part of the perilous journey. I thought of the extraordinary difficulty of preparing the detailed maps recording for the first time the bends and turns of the river. I thought of the simple but accurate sketches of the animals, birds, wildlife, and American Indians, and of the plant leaves that the explorers carefully pressed and saved for posterity.

It was surprising to me that the Shoshone guide, Sacagawea, was an early document preservationist. It was she, after all, who, according to Lewis, once “caught and preserved” some of the journals that had tumbled out of one of the boats rollicking in the rapids. In an elemental sense, we can count her in the long line of archivists and records conservators who perform such valuable service every day across the country, though mostly on dry land.

Ken Burns himself remarked how “precious” and “vivid” the film makers found the explorers' journals. Here, in their own words and in their own hands, he said, were first-person descriptions of the wondrous sights. When Burns and his colleagues shot the documentary, the journals were, he said, a “thrilling visual resource.” “Our lenses moved in,” Burns recalled, “and almost microscopically surveyed the landscape of their recorded experience.” Burns picked out single, powerful phrases: “O! the joy;” “visionary enchantment;” and the simple, yet determined, “we proceeded on.”

I began to think how the story of what happened to the documents rivals, in a way, the history of this marvelous expedition. That these materials should have survived the trip is remarkable in itself. That they should have survived two centuries and be available to writers such as Stephen Ambrose, who recently authored the best-selling *Undaunted Courage*, and to film makers such as Burns is also remarkable. It is a testament that something went right. Whose combined efforts should we applaud?

Check the film credits. Notice the lists of archival institutions that are preserving the materials; notice the lists of archivists who helped the film makers in their research. Also notice the acknowledgment to Professor Gary Moulton, University of Nebraska.

Moulton began his own journey of discovery when he undertook the daunting task of transcribing and editing the journals of Lewis and Clark. The twelfth and final volume will be sent to the University of Nebraska Press early next year.

When completed, the project will have published the journals created by the two captains and four of the enlisted men; other textual materials; 128 maps; botanical photographs including 240 of the plants Lewis pressed and saved along the journey. Moulton himself identified 11 of the plants in the records at Kew Gardens, the Royal Botanical Gardens in London.

On November 10, 1997, various individuals involved with the filming of the documentary attended a viewing with President Clinton in the East Room. It was in that room that Meriwether Lewis worked two centuries ago as President Jefferson's private secretary—“a nice connection,” according to Moulton.

In his remarks, President Clinton praised the work of Moulton and others who helped enrich understanding of one of America's most central historical events. The President said, “That is a very precious gift to our future generations.” Indeed.

NHPRC Welcomes Justice Souter

At its November 18 meeting, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission was pleased to welcome Associate Justice David Hackett Souter of the Supreme Court of the United States as the Court's representative on the Commission. Justice Souter succeeds Associate Justice Harry A. Blackmun in that capacity.

Justice Souter was named to the Supreme Court in 1990, prior to which he served as Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard, and was a Rhodes Scholar. After a brief career in private practice, he became Assistant Attorney General of New Hampshire in 1968, Deputy Attorney General in 1971, and Attorney General in 1976. His judicial service began in 1978 as Associate Justice of the New Hampshire Superior Court, from which he moved to the New Hampshire Supreme Court in 1983. He is a member of the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a former vice president of the New Hampshire Historical Society.

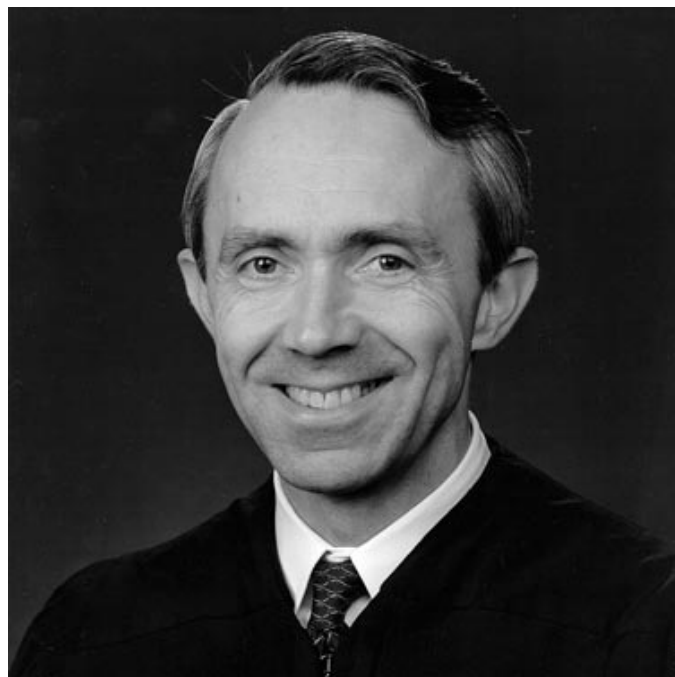


Photo by Joseph H. Bailey, National Geographic Society, courtesy of the Supreme Court of the United States.

“Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives”

The Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives is currently engaged in a two-year project to locate, preserve, and make accessible records which document the labor history of New York City, funded in part by NHPRC Grant No. 96-063. The “Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives” Labor Records Project has as its goal the appraisal and accessioning of these records, subject to successful negotiations with the present owners. The records collections were identified by the Harry Von Arsdale Labor Documentation Project over the past decade as of vital importance in documenting New York’s labor history.

The four largest collections in question document labor activities in the newspaper, hotel, and baking industries. They constitute the records of the Bakery, Confectionery, and Tobacco Workers, Local 3; the New York Newspaper Guild, Local 3; the Hotel, Motel, Restaurant, and Club Workers and Bartenders International Union, Local 6; and the New York Hotel Trades Council. The 30 other smaller collections document labor activities in the building trades and other underdocumented sectors.

Janet Greene was hired as project archivist in April 1996. Working together with Wagner Archivist Debra E. Bernhardt, she checked on the status of the four major collections, and found that changes had taken place since the records were surveyed by the earlier project. A basement flood had destroyed a portion of the Newspaper Guild records, while materials in the other three collections had been moved from their original locations, and some had been discarded. The Newspaper Guild records that remained had not been moved, so the earlier survey was still adequate, but the other three collections had to be resurveyed.

Negotiations having been successful, some 70 linear feet of the Newspaper Guild, Local 3, and 58 linear feet of Bakers Local 3 records were transferred to the Wagner processing facilities, made available by the Archives’ host institution, New York University’s Tamiment Institute Library. The project also anticipated the transfer of some 300 linear feet of Hotel (HERE Local 6) records.

The processing of the records has proceeded at a steady pace, despite the need to protect staff members from the metal dust and other solid particles present in the Newspaper Guild collection, which caused respiratory and skin problems. NYU provided a fume scrubber to alleviate this problem, and supplemented the support staff needed for the project. Substantial progress has been made in sorting and rehousing the Newspaper Guild and Bakers records, and work on four of the smaller collections has been completed. HERE Local 6 assisted the project by arranging for two summer interns to help resurvey its records.

In addition, 10 oral histories have been completed to supplement the collections, including four from the Bakers union and three from the hotel trades. Photographs found during processing, as well as some encapsulated documents, have been part of several presentations by project staff members to NYU research methods classes. The project has caused retirees’ organizations at the Hotel Trades Council and HERE Local 6 to become more interested in the Archives and its work. All of which makes it possible for the Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives to do an even better job of documenting the history of New York’s workers and their organizations.



Project archivist Janet Greene joins staff members in examining photographic negatives. Photograph by Debra E. Bernhardt, courtesy of the Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives.

Electronic Technologies Projects Make Connections

by Joyce M. Ray

The NHPRC has been supporting research on the preservation of electronic records since 1980. Beginning in 1990, the Commission has also funded experimental projects that are using electronic technologies, including CD-ROM and the World Wide Web, to publish collections of significant historical documents. The Commission's electronic records research program focuses on the archival preservation of records originally created in electronic form, while the electronic publishing projects deal with the digital conversion of historical documents created on paper. These projects collectively contribute to a better understanding of how digital information of long-term value can be maintained and provided to users.

Researchers for NHPRC-supported electronic records projects have developed guidelines and models for the design and evaluation of electronic recordkeeping systems, proposed standards for preserving and managing digital information, and produced tools to improve electronic records management. Their work has significant implications for how electronic records contained in databases, word processing documents, and electronic mail will be managed in the future. Because of the growing interest of archivists and records managers in electronic records issues, reports from NHPRC-sponsored research projects have become popular session topics at professional archival meetings. Debate on different approaches is increasing because archival institutions large and small are facing difficult policy and resource decisions about the historically valuable electronic records that fall within their domains.¹ At the 1997 meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Chicago, for example, reports on NHPRC research projects were presented by representatives of the New York State Archives and Records Administration, Indiana University, the City of Philadelphia, WGBH Foundation, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The widespread availability of the World Wide Web has also made it possible for projects to share their findings more quickly than in the past [*see sidebar for Web site addresses of NHPRC-supported electronic records research projects*]. Research results are now available to decision makers in a more timely manner.

NHPRC electronic records research grants have supported projects to:

- Develop model records management guidelines for Federal and State Web sites (Syracuse University).
- Promote development and acceptance of a Universal Preservation Format for audio and video digital recordings (WGBH Foundation).
- Develop and test model requirements for new electronic recordkeeping systems and explore ways to improve the recordkeeping functionality of existing information systems (University of Pittsburgh, Indiana University, City of Philadelphia, State University of New York - Albany, Delaware Public Archives).
- Test different approaches to the archival management of electronic records (New York State Archives and Records Administration, Vermont State Archives, Kansas State Historical

Society, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Mississippi Department of Archives and History).

At the same time, historical editing projects have begun laying the groundwork for electronic delivery of historical source material for educational and research purposes [*see sidebar for Web site addresses of NHPRC-supported editing projects*]. NHPRC electronic publishing grants have supported:

- Optical imaging of surviving records of the War Department, 1784-1800, for publication on CD-ROM. The War Department's records for this period were destroyed in a warehouse fire; the collection has been partially reconstructed from outgoing correspondence.
- Optical imaging of the legal papers of Abraham Lincoln for publication on CD-ROM. The records contain valuable information about Lincoln's early professional life and provide a rare insight into the workings of a small mid-nineteenth century legal office.
- Development of guidelines and demonstration models for the electronic publication of historical documents. The Model Editions Partnership is a consortium of seven historical documentary editions, in partnership with leaders of the Text Encoding Initiative, that is collaborating to develop methods for creating and delivering historical editions on the World Wide Web and CD-ROM. The editions participating in the partnership, all of which are also supported by individual NHPRC grants, are: the Documentary History of the First Federal Congress, the Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the Papers of General Nathanael Greene, the Papers of Henry Laurens, the Lincoln Legal Papers, the Papers of Margaret Sanger, and the Papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony.

There are many unknowns about electronic publishing, and even more unknowns about the publication of historical documentary sources. Publishers do not yet know if CD-ROM versions of these materials will be commercially successful. In many cases it is unclear who will take responsibility for long-term preservation of the electronic formats, yet the cost of digital conversion and migration to new hardware and software as technologies change is too high to ignore. Retrieval strategies must also be developed that can transcend hardware and software changes. Finally, it is not yet known whether users will find electronic formats, whether CD-ROM or the World Wide Web, sufficiently "friendly" to justify conversion and long-term maintenance costs.

The answers to these questions have important implications for how historians and other researchers will use all kinds of historical resources in the future. Archivists are exploring ways to provide access to their holdings on the World Wide Web through the creation of electronic finding aids and digital libraries. Although a consensus definition of the term "digital library" has not yet emerged, for purposes of this discussion a digital library is assumed to be a collection of digital images, texts, and/or other objects accumulated for informational rather

than evidential value and organized by its creator for access by remote users. Digital libraries can provide online access to historical materials such as photographs, high-use documents, and even electronic databases. These digital collections must be organized and presented in logical structures for retrieval. For this reason, the development of digital libraries has much in common with electronic publication of historical texts.

A report released this year by the Commission on Preservation and Access, *SGML as a Framework for Digital Preservation and Access*, illustrates the relationship between electronic text publishing and the creation of electronic finding aids and digital libraries for archival materials.² SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language) is an international standard (ISO 8879) for the coding of electronic text. Its use has been promoted by the archival profession for the creation of electronic finding aids, and it has also been endorsed by the publishing industry for electronic publications.³ The National Archives and Records Administration has recently issued revised regulations for the transfer of permanent electronic records to the National Archives which specify that an agency may transfer electronic textual documents with SGML tags to preserve the structure of the records. In the area of electronic publishing, the Internet prototypes being developed for the Model Editions Partnership reflect a variety of approaches that rely on SGML in varying degrees. The Lincoln Legal Papers and the Margaret Sanger Papers mini-editions use images of original manuscripts, while the other sample editions use transcriptions of original manuscripts. For the Lincoln project, SGML markup provides a gateway to a relational database of images and content information developed by the editors. For the Sanger project, SGML markup creates “envelopes” that include both manuscript images and content information. For the other projects that present transcriptions, SGML markup is used to describe the text itself and to link the text to content information. The new Commission on Preservation and Access report advocates the further use of SGML as a standard to facilitate discovery and retrieval of documents contained in digital libraries.⁴

Archives are now facing the need not only to preserve electronic records created by others and designated for permanent archival retention because of their historical significance, but also the need to preserve the digital libraries they themselves are creating to enhance access to their holdings. In many cases the original formats of these historical materials must be preserved for their intrinsic value in addition to the digital versions, thus creating new maintenance costs. For digital imaging, it is necessary to find a reasonable balance between the desire to produce the highest quality images possible and the need to hold down imaging, storage, and migration costs, all of which rise in proportion to image quality. It is also important to identify appropriate levels of description and markup for textual materials and finding aids that will provide adequate access to holdings and yet be cost-effective.

Fortunately, the NHPRC is not the only funding source for digital library research and development. Federal grant programs sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Institute for Museum and Library Services have distinct programs for digital library research. The National Endowment for the Humanities supports work in the electronic delivery of

humanities texts, and the Library of Congress has contributed substantially to the digital library knowledge base through its American Memory Project, which is digitizing materials from the Library’s own holdings, and through a competitive grants program sponsored by the Ameritech Corporation.

The NHPRC remains the only Federal grants program with a specific focus on the management of evidential records originally created in electronic form, and it is one of the few programs supporting electronic publication of historical documentary texts. Because of its belief in the importance of both these programs, the Commission has designated research and development on appraising, preserving, disseminating and providing access to important documentary sources in electronic form as a top-level priority in its strategic plan that takes effect in fiscal year 1999. NHPRC grants for electronic records research and for electronic publishing are contributing to a whole spectrum of knowledge about digital information, from its creation as an original record or as a digitized document, to its preservation in a recordkeeping system or digital library, and finally to its delivery to users.

NHPRC grants for electronic publishing and for electronic records research are helping to increase our capability to preserve important documentary sources in electronic form for future use. They may even help to discover new uses for these materials, such as techniques for distance education or innovative approaches to classroom teaching. Documentary editors can learn a great deal from archivists about long-term preservation and maintenance strategies for digital information, while archivists can learn much from documentary editors about the delivery of historical resources in digital form to users. It is those users—historians, teachers, students, and perhaps new audiences now unknown—who will be the ultimate beneficiaries of both electronic publishing and electronic records research projects.

¹The National Archives and Records Administration, for example, has held an internal series of discussions on electronic records issues, the National Archives of Canada has experimented with various approaches to the management of electronic records with historical value, and the European Union has recently completed a survey of plans for electronic records management by the national archives of member countries. Likewise, several state archives have undertaken consulting and planning projects, some with NHPRC support, to develop strategies for managing electronic records.

²James Coleman and Don Willis, *SGML as a Framework for Digital Preservation and Access*. Commission on Preservation and Access, Washington, DC, 1997.

³The emerging standard for Encoded Archival Description is one of the many SGML-based Document Type Definitions [DTD’s] developed under the aegis of the Text Encoding Initiative for the markup of various types of documents; other DTD’s have been developed for historical documents such as letters, diaries, and essays.

⁴The report notes, however, that another markup language, XML (Extensible Markup Language), shows promise as a potential bridge between SGML, which provides detailed structure to documents but can be difficult to create programs for, and the World Wide Web’s HTML, which is widely available and relatively simple but which is not rich enough to allow documents to be searched or managed in precise ways.

NHPRC-Supported Project Web sites

Electronic Records Research Projects

These are the URL's (Uniform Resource Locators) that we're aware of for Web sites maintained by NHPRC-supported electronic records projects. The grant number for the most recent grant to each project is provided in parentheses at the end of each project title. The project Web sites can also be accessed from the NHPRC Web site at <http://www.nara.gov/nara/nhprc/>. For a summary of many of the electronic records projects funded between 1991 and 1996, see *Electronic Records Research and Development: Final Report of the 1996 Conference* (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1996), available online at <http://www.si.umich.edu/e-recs/>. All NHPRC-supported grant projects with Web sites are invited to submit their URL's to us so that we can link them to the NHPRC site.

Syracuse University, School of Information Studies. A project to develop model quality guidelines for Federal and State Web sites. (97-014) <http://istweb.syr.edu/Project/Faculty/NHPRCAbstract.html>

WGBH Foundation. A project to develop and build support for a Universal Preservation Format (UPF) for audio and video digital recordings. (97-029) <http://info.wgbh.org/upf/>

City of Philadelphia. A project to develop recordkeeping policies and standards for the city's information technology systems and to incorporate functional requirements and metadata for electronic recordkeeping into new and existing information systems and networked environments. (97-001) <http://www.phila.gov/city/departments/erms/erm.html>.

Center for Technology in Government, Research Foundation of the State University of New York. A project to identify best practices for electronic recordkeeping based on work by the University of Pittsburgh, the University of British Columbia, the U.S. Department of Defense, the City of Philadelphia, and others and to develop a system development model incorporating electronic recordkeeping and archival considerations into the creation of networked-computing and communications applications. (96-023) <http://www.ctg.albany.edu/projects/er/ermn.html>.

Delaware Bureau of Archives and Records Management. A project to develop an electronic records program for state government records, incorporating functional requirements for electronic recordkeeping developed by the University of Pittsburgh into policies for new state information systems. (96-016) <http://del-aware.lib.de.us/archives/del-proj.htm>.

South Carolina Department of Archives and History. A project to plan and develop a state information locator system. (96-010) <http://www.state.sc.us/scils/>

Indiana University. A project to analyze existing electronic records systems and policies, compare them to other models and policies, and create and disseminate a repository information system model, system evaluation tools, and information policy standards. (95-033) <http://www.indiana.edu/~libarche/article.html>.

University of Pittsburgh. A project to address the first three questions in the agenda outlined in the Commission-funded report, *Research Issues in Electronic Records*: "What functions

and data are required to manage electronic records in accord with archival requirements? Do data requirements and functions vary for different types of automated applications?"; "What are the technological, conceptual, and economic implications of capturing and retaining data, descriptive information, and contextual information in electronic form from a variety of applications?"; "How can software-dependent data objects be retained for future use?" (93-030) <http://www.lis.pitt.edu/@nhprc/>.

Electronic Publications Projects

The following URL's will lead you to Web sites maintained by NHPRC-supported documentary editing projects. The grant number for the most recent grant to each project is provided in parentheses at the end of each project description or title. Two projects, the Lincoln Legal Papers and the Papers of the War Department, are solely electronic publications. The others are traditional publications projects that have created Web sites to provide online access to selected documents and/or that have contributed selections to the Model Editions Partnership. These sites can also be located through the NHPRC Web site at <http://www.nara.gov/nara/nhprc/projects.html>. For a fuller discussion of the Model Editions Partnership, see David Chesnutt's article "The Model Editions Partnership: 'Smart Text' and Beyond" in the July/August issue of D-Lib Magazine, available at <http://www.dlib.org>. All NHPRC-supported grant projects with Web sites are invited to submit their URL's to us so that we can link them to the NHPRC site.

Model Editions Partnership. A project to address the scholarly and technological issues involved in developing new approaches to enhance intellectual access to documentary editions. In addition to information about the project, selections of material from the following projects can be viewed on the Model Editions Web site: Documentary History of the First Federal Congress, Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, Papers of General Nathanael Greene, Papers of Henry Laurens, Lincoln Legal Papers, Papers of Margaret Sanger, and Papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. (97-004) <http://mep.cla.sc.edu>

The Papers of John Adams. (97-027) http://www.hup.harvard.edu/Also.by/Also_Adams_Papers.html

The Papers of Jefferson Davis. (97-032) <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~pjdavis/>

The Papers of Frederick Douglass. (97-038) <http://www.as.wvu.edu/history/douglass>

The Papers of Thomas A. Edison. (97-077) <http://edison.rutgers.edu/>

The Papers of Benjamin Franklin. (97-026) <http://www.yale.edu/yup/F96/oberg.html>

Freedmen and Southern Society. (97-033) <http://www.inform.umd.edu/ARHU/Depts/History/Freedman/home.html>

The Papers of Marcus Garvey and the Universal Negro Improvement Association. (97-036) <http://www.isoop.ucla.edu/mgpp/default/htm>

The Samuel Gompers Papers. (97-075) <http://www.inform.umd.edu/EdRes/Colleges/ARHU/Depts/History/Gompers/web1.html>

The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant. (97-052) <<http://www.lib.siu.edu/projects/usgrant/>>

The Papers of Jacob Leisler. (93-064) <<http://pages.nyu.edu/~voorhees/>>

The Papers of Thomas Jefferson. (97-021) <http://gildersleeve.princeton.edu/CampusWWW/Companion/jefferson_papers.html>

The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr. (97-092) <<http://www-leland.stanford.edu/group/King/>>

The Papers of James Madison. (97-025) <<http://www.virginia.edu/pjm/>>

The Papers of John Marshall. (97-056) <<http://www.wm.edu/JMP/>>

The Papers of Margaret Sanger. (97-031) <<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/sanger/>>

The Papers of Howard Thurman. (97-097) <<http://www.crd.edu/HThurmanHome.htm>>

The Papers of the War Department, 1784-1800. (97-101) <<http://www.internetworld.net/pwd/>>

The Papers of George Washington. (97-023) <<http://www.virginia.edu/~gwpapers/main.html>>

Spotlight on the States

The Ohio 2003 Plan

At its November 1993 meeting, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) awarded a planning grant (NHPRC Grant No. 94-033) of \$18,524 to the Ohio State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) to revise and update its priorities by sharing *The Ohio 2003 Draft Plan* with constituents of historical records programs in the state, making appropriate revisions based on their input, and developing an implementation schedule. The year 2003 is significant because it will mark the bicentennial of Ohio's statehood. Commission staff recently received the Ohio SHRAB's final report on the administration of this grant. This record of the Ohio SHRAB's accomplishments makes very interesting reading.

The Ohio SHRAB's first objective was to share the draft strategic plan with interested constituents. To this end, the draft plan was published in the Spring 1994 issue of *The Ohio Archivist*, the Winter 1994 issue of *Preview Magazine* and the October 1993 issue of *Echoes* (both produced by the Ohio Historical Society), and the Winter 1994 issue of the Ohio Academy of History's *Newsletter*. The SHRAB established an implementation schedule for the plan in 1994, and after making appropriate revisions of the draft, officially adopted *The Ohio 2003 Plan* in February 1995. A joint printing of the plan and of Ohio's preservation action agenda, entitled *To Outwit Time: Preserving Materials in Ohio's Libraries and Archives*, prepared under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), took place in May 1995. The Ohio SHRAB distributed 5,000 copies of the two documents to libraries, archives, historical societies, museums, members of the Society of Ohio Archivists, and Ohio lawmakers, among others.

The board fulfilled one of the plan's objectives by encouraging the Society of Ohio Archivists to continue two successful programs. The Society's Archives 101 teaches archival skills to non-professionals, and its Archives Week increases public awareness of historical records.

The Ohio SHRAB advanced a second objective of the plan by supporting the Ohio Historical Society's grant proposal

relating to the establishment of a state electronic records archives. At its November 1995 meeting, the NHPRC approved a grant (96-019) of up to \$10,000 for a six-month consultancy to assist with planning for the development of the Ohio Electronic Records Archives. Project staff would review state-agency records policies and update them as necessary to integrate functional requirements for recordkeeping. The Society retained Margaret Hedstrom of the University of Michigan's School of Information and Library Studies as its consultant. Ms. Hedstrom submitted her draft report in August 1996. Meanwhile, significant events were taking place in the state legislature. In February 1997, the state earmarked \$1.5 million to establish an electronic records program and support ongoing automation projects.

The Ohio Historical Society furthered another of the plan's objectives through its project entitled "Access Through Automation: A Technology Plan for the Archives/Library Division of the Ohio Historical Society." Begun in March 1996, this six-year program will facilitate public access to the Society's research and archival collections, as well as link the collections of the Society, the Western Reserve Historical Society, and perhaps the Cincinnati Historical Society into the statewide information infrastructure.

In 1996, the Ohio SHRAB established a website and home page on the World Wide Web (<<http://www.ohiohistory.org/ohrab/>>). It also sponsored and coordinated the Ohio segment of the Historical Records and Repository Survey (HRRS), a project of the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators.

In December 1996, the SHRAB met with the executive director of the Ohio Bicentennial Commission, who expressed interest in a joint effort to implement *The Ohio 2003 Plan* as part of the Commission's plan of action. Linking state records preservation efforts to so notable an event as the celebration of the bicentennial of statehood will help to make the public more conscious of Ohio's documentary heritage, hopefully at both state and local levels. The Ohio SHRAB deserves to be congratulated for its accomplishments under its dynamic strategic plan.

NHPRC Approves Grants for Electronic Records Projects, State Board Planning Grants, and Documentary Editions

At its meeting on November 18, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission recommended grants totaling \$2,308,182 for 28 projects that will enhance our understanding of America's past. Archivist of the United States John W. Carlin, who is the Chairperson of the NHPRC, welcomed Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court David Souter as a new member of the Commission, and also welcomed Roger Bruns as Acting Executive Director.

The Commission reaffirmed its endorsement of the research agenda set forth in the publication *Research Issues in Electronic Records*. Electronic records research-and-development grant applications should discuss the proposed project's relationship to that agenda and provide justification for addressing any new research questions. The Commission also resolved that while it would impose no minimum limit on grant applications, grant requests for under \$5,000 would normally meet with approval only upon demonstration of extraordinary need.

Acting Executive Director Bruns announced that the United States Information Agency has included, in its American Studies Collection, approximately 100 volumes from historical documentary collections funded by Commission grants. The American Studies Collection, a total of some 1,300 volumes on topics relating to the study of American civilization, which will be placed in 57 participating university libraries around the world. The documentary volumes, which constitute a part of the collection known as Documents of Democracy, were especially chosen for inclusion by a panel of scholarly experts working in consultation with the Commission.

Chairperson Carlin announced the appointment of a search committee to select a new executive director for the Commission. Chaired by Deputy Archivist Lewis J. Bellardo, its members are Commissioners Charles T. Cullen, Anne R. Kenney, Howard Lowell, and Constance Schulz.

At its meeting, the Commission recommended that the Archivist make grants totaling \$721,136 for five electronic records projects, \$250,771 for nine state board planning grants, \$1,284,319 for 13 founding-era documentary editing projects and subventions, and \$51,956 for one level-two documentary editing project allowed early submission under extraordinary circumstances.

The Commission also selected the Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library at Princeton University as the host institution for the its 1998-99 Fellowship in Archival Administration, and the Lucretia Mott Correspondence Project at Pomona College as the host project for its 1998-99 Fellowship in Historical Documentary Editing.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for February 24, 1998. The next deadline for grant applications is February 1, 1998, for consideration at the Commission's June 1998 meeting.

Electronic Records Projects

- Association of Research Libraries, Coalition for Networked Information, Washington, DC: A one-year grant of

up to \$20,000 for a project entitled "Improved Access to Electronic Records," to develop, offer, and evaluate a pilot workshop that will bring together teams of archivists and information technologists to explore electronic records issues.

- Regents of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI: A 30-month grant of \$105,845 for a project entitled "Preserving Electronic Records of Collaborative Processes," to conduct an analysis of recordkeeping practices in six private-sector environments with the goals of producing case studies, assessing the degree to which functional requirements for electronic recordkeeping are applicable in settings without highly structured business processes, developing guidelines for electronic recordkeeping in such settings, and publishing a monograph based on this study.

- Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, MN: A two-year grant of \$90,031 for the Society's electronic records project, to establish electronic records pilot programs with two state agencies in order to evaluate the metadata the agencies produce, determine the applicability of that metadata to archival concerns, and establish a set of "best practices" and guidelines that will provide incentives for other state agencies to document their information systems and provide the basis for a functioning, sustainable electronic records program within the state archives.

- The Research Foundation of the State University of New York, Albany, NY: A two-year grant of \$381,332 for a project entitled "Secondary Uses of Electronic Records," to develop guidelines to support and promote long-term preservation of and access to public electronic records of value to secondary users, including historians and other researchers. The project will examine the factors that contribute to or impede secondary use of records, then use applied research methodologies to assess technology tools, management strategies, and resource-sharing models for their potential to facilitate such access.

- Cornell University, Ithaca, NY: A two-year grant of up to \$123,928 for project entitled "Archival Electronic Records Practice," to study the types of archival electronic records produced on the college level within a large university. The goal is to initiate discussions and provide recommendations that will form the basis for future efforts to implement best practices for electronic recordkeeping for Cornell's centralized university information system (Project 2000).

State Board Planning Grants

- Kansas State Historical Records Advisory Board, Topeka, KS: A two-year grant of \$55,815 for a strategic planning project to assess the board's mission and vision, evaluate two recent repository surveys, identify issues for further planning and prioritization, and establish task forces to develop specific strategies.

- South Carolina Historical Records Advisory Board, Columbia, SC: A two-year grant of \$29,340 for a planning project to evaluate progress on the board's 1994 plan, publish and distribute a report and a revised plan based on this evaluation,

reassess the board's own mission, develop criteria for evaluating progress on the revised plan, and sponsor workshops and conferences on historical records.

- Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH: A one-year grant of \$6,686 for a planning project to enable the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board to hold quarterly meetings and continue its efforts to implement its current long-range plan.
- Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, MN: A three-year grant of \$23,568 to enable the Minnesota Historical Records Advisory Board to continue its planning process and to support the implementation of identified priorities.
- Office of the Secretary of State, Georgia Department of Archives and History, Atlanta, GA: A one-year grant of \$21,762 for a planning project to develop minimum standards for records repositories, prepare an institutional self-assessment tool, create a resource manual to enable repositories to improve their records programs, and conduct a pilot project to test the self-evaluation tool and training methods utilizing the resource manual.
- New Jersey Historical Records Advisory Board, Trenton, NJ: An 18-month grant of \$33,100 to produce a strategic plan for ensuring preservation and access to state historical records.
- Florida State Historical Records Advisory Board, Tallahassee, FL: A two-year grant of \$15,500 to evaluate and revise its 1994 strategic plan in order to address new and changing issues faced by the state's archival and records community.
- Pennsylvania Historical Records Advisory Board, Harrisburg, PA: A 22-month grant of \$45,157 to prepare a strategic plan addressing the identification, acquisition, preservation, and access of the state's historically valuable records.
- Connecticut State Library, Hartford, CT: A two-year grant of \$19,843 to help the Connecticut State Historical Records Advisory Board improve the state's educational and training programs for the management of historical records.



Recent Records Products and Documentary Editions

Records Products

The following products from records projects funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) have been received since the June meeting. Information concerning availability has been provided.

- *Guide to the Manuscript Holdings of the Archives of Barre History*. Barre, VT: Aldrich Public Library, 1997. Support provided through NHPRC Grant No. 93-073. For information, contact Karen Lane, Director, Aldrich Public Library, Barre, VT 05641; telephone (802) 476-7550
- Nevada State Historical Records Advisory Board, *Preserving Nevada's Documentary Heritage, 1997-2005: A Strategic Plan*. Carson City, Nevada: Nevada State Library &

Founding-Era Documentary Editing Projects and Subventions

- Board of Regents, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI: A grant of \$153,000 for *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*.
 - Princeton University, Princeton, NJ: A grant of \$147,363 for *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson*.
 - Supreme Court Historical Society, Washington, DC: A grant of \$205,740 for *The Documentary History of the Supreme Court of the United States, 1789-1800*.
 - University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: A grant of \$138,341 for *The Papers of George Washington*.
 - The George Washington University, Washington, DC: A grant of up to \$190,500 for *The Documentary History of the First Federal Congress, 1789-1791*.
 - Yale University, New Haven, CT: A grant of \$154,000 for *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*.
 - Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA: A grant of \$126,875 for *The Adams Papers*.
 - University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: A grant of up to \$132,500 for *The Papers of James Madison*.
 - State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI: A subvention grant of \$10,000 for *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. 5.
 - State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI: A subvention grant of \$3,000 for *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. 14 (reprint).
 - State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI: A subvention grant of \$3,000 for *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. 15 (reprint).
 - University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: A subvention grant of \$10,000 for *The Papers of George Washington, Revolutionary War Series*, Vol. 8.
 - Yale University Press, New Haven, CT: A subvention grant of \$10,000 for *The Papers of Benjamin Franklin*, Vol. 34.
- ### Level-Two Documentary Editing Project
- Queens College and the Research Foundation of the City University of New York, New York, NY: A terminal grant of \$51,956 for *The Papers of Robert Morris*.

Archives, 1997. Support provided through NHPRC Grant No. 96-011. For information, contact the Nevada State Library & Archives, Department of Museums, Library & Arts, 100 North Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89701-4285; telephone (702) 687-5210; FAX (702) 687-8311.

- Margaret T. Anderson, compiler, *Guide to the Corporate Record Collection of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company at the Chesapeake and Ohio Historical Society, Inc.* Clifton Forge, VA: The Chesapeake & Ohio Historical Society, Inc., 1997. Support provided through NHPRC Grant No. 94-091. For information, contact the Chesapeake & Ohio Historical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 79, Clifton Forge, VA 24422.

- *Online Electronic Documents and Distributed Databases: An Examination of Archival Policy and Preservation Options. Final Report.* Albany, NY: SUNY System Office of Archives and Records Management, 1996; Thomas J. Galvin and Russell L. Kahn, "A Case Study of the Online Electronic Documents and Distributed Data Bases Project of the Office of Archives and Records Management, State University of New York, 1994-1996," June 1996; and "Guidelines for the Management and Preservation of Electronic Text Documents," November 1995. Support provided under NHPRC Grant No. 94-038. For information, contact the State University of New York System, Office of Archives and Records Management, SUNY Plaza, Albany, NY 12246.

- Eileen O'Brien, *A Guide to Processing Manuscript Collections of the Vermont Historical Society.* Montpelier, VT: Vermont Historical Society, 1997. The Vermont History Society has also provided copies of finding aids for 61 collections. These include the papers of the Ballou Panthers, the Beattie family, Eli Hawley Canfield, Edwin Clifton Hall, William Jarvis, George Edward Little, Justin Smith Morrill, Royce S. Pitkin, Henry Stevens, Royall Tyler, and the Vermont Equal Suffrage Association. Support provided under NHPRC Grant No. 94-051. For information on these products, contact the Vermont Historical Society, Pavilion Bldg., 109 State St., Montpelier, VT 05609-0901; telephone (802) 828-2291; FAX (802) 828-3638; e-mail: <vhs@vhs.state.vt.us>.

- *Preliminary Worksheets for Developing a Disaster Plan: Guidelines for Protecting Records.* Disaster Preparedness Workshop Series. Richmond, VA: Records Management Division, The Library of Virginia, Spring 1996; Lisa L. Fox, *Workbook for Developing a Disaster Plan.* Richmond, VA: Records Management and Imaging Services Division, The

Library of Virginia, July 1996. Support provided under NHPRC Grant No. 96-071. For information, contact Karen Minor, The Library of Virginia, 800 East Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219-1905; telephone (804) 692-3605; FAX (804) 692-3603. The worksheets may be requested on floppy diskettes in Microsoft Word 6.0 and WordPerfect 6.1.

Documentary Publications

The following products from NHPRC-supported documentary editing projects have been received in the Commission office since June 1997.

The Samuel Gompers Papers. Vol. 6: *The American Federation of Labor and the Rise of Progressivism, 1902-6* (University of Illinois Press, 1997)

The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, Second Series, Jefferson's Memorandum Books: Accounts, with Legal Records and Miscellany, 1767-1826, Vol. 1 (Princeton University Press, 1997)

The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, Second Series, Jefferson's Memorandum Books: Accounts, with Legal Records and Miscellany, 1767-1826, Vol. 2 (Princeton University Press, 1997)

The Papers of Andrew Johnson, Vol. 13 [September 1867-March 1868] (University of Tennessee Press, 1996)

The Papers of Andrew Johnson, Vol. 14 [April-August 1868] (University of Tennessee Press, 1997)

The Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, Supplementary Series, Vol. 1: Writings on Public Parks, Parkways, and Park Systems [1851-1894] (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997)

The Presidio and Militia on the Northern Frontier of New Spain: A Documentary History, Vol. 2, Part 1: The Californias and Sinaloa-Sonora, 1700-1765. (University of Arizona Press, 1997)

The Selected Papers of Thaddeus Stevens, Vol. 1 [January 1814-March, 1865] (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1997)

John Niven

John Niven, editor of *The Salmon P. Chase Papers* and a nationally known scholar in the fields of Jacksonian and Civil War history, died on August 14, 1997, of cancer. He was 75. Dr. Niven was Professor Emeritus of American History at Claremont Graduate School, where he had chaired the department of history. He leaves a wife, Elizabeth Thomson Niven; a son, Drake, and a daughter, Katherine; and two grandsons, Ethan and Alec.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, on October 26, 1921, he graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1943, after which he received a commission in the United States Navy, serving in both the European and the Pacific theaters of operations during World War II. After the war, he undertook graduate studies at Columbia University, from which he received his master's degree in 1947 and his doctorate in 1955. His revised dissertation was published as *Connecticut for the Union* (1965).

From 1951 to 1960, he worked for Electric Boat Company and General Dynamics Corporation in New York, serving as Director of Publications for General

Dynamics, in which capacity he co-authored *Dynamic America: A History of General Dynamics Corporation and Its Predecessor Companies* (1960).

He then accepted an appointment as professor of history at Claremont Graduate School. Over the following 35 years, he produced a number of outstanding biographies of prominent figures in American history. These include *Gideon Welles: Lincoln's Secretary of the Navy* (1973), *Connecticut Hero: Israel Putnam* (1977), *Martin Van Buren: The Romantic Age of American Politics* (1983), *John C. Calhoun and the Price of Union: A Biography* (1988), and *Salmon P. Chase: A Biography* (1995). Dr. Niven also wrote *The American President Lines and Its Forebears, 1848-1984: From Paddlewheels to Containerships* (1987) and *The Coming of the Civil War, 1837-1861* (1990).

Dr. Niven initiated the NHPRC-funded project to publish the papers of Salmon P. Chase, which produced four volumes of documentation between 1993 and 1997. He was editing the fifth and final volume of Chase correspondence at the time of his death.

Spotlight on Documentary Editing

December 17, 1997, marks the bicentennial of the birth of Joseph Henry, the premier American scientist of the 19th century and the first secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. We spotlight the Joseph Henry Papers project in celebration of this event.

Keepers of the Flame

by Patrick Hughes

Joseph Henry's state funeral in 1878 was the most impressive since that of Abraham Lincoln.

"I was . . . in Washington when this good man died," said William Tecumseh Sherman, and "felt in the very air the evidence of universal grief; saw the President, Congress, and the Supreme Court pay a just respect to his memory and follow him to his grave. . . ."

"A Loss to All the Nation," headlined the *New York Times*, as newspapers throughout the country and overseas reported Henry's passing.

Eight months later the Congress held a special joint session to eulogize his memory.

Five years after his death, the government was closed for the dedication on the national mall of Henry's congressionally commissioned nine-foot bronze statue. John Philip Sousa led the Marine Band in the inaugural performance of a march he composed for the occasion.

Two decades after his death, the great man was chosen as one of 16 immortals honored by a circle of statues in the Library of Congress, two for each of eight categories of human achievement. His companion scientist was Isaac Newton. His other peers included Beethoven, Homer, Michelangelo, Moses, Plato, and Shakespeare. Never before or since has America so honored a man of science.

In 1954, the National Historical Publications Commission named Joseph Henry to a list of great Americans whose papers were most worthy of publication. In 1966, the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the Smithsonian Institution co-sponsored and launched the Joseph Henry Papers project.

Today it is the job of science historian Marc Rothenberg and his small staff to recapture and document Henry's indispensable contributions to science and American life. They work next door to the Castle where Joseph Henry and his family lived while he was Secretary of the Smithsonian. To date eight annotated volumes of Henry's papers most pertinent to the history of American science and culture have been published and work has begun on volume nine. Up to six more volumes are planned. Henry is the only American scientist who is the subject of a major papers publication project.

Yet most Americans today have never even heard of Joseph Henry, the most famous American scientist of the 19th century.

"It's a classic paradox," says Rothenberg, editor of *The Papers of Joseph Henry*, "and a sad reflection of how our society has lost its appreciation of the crucial need for people with the guts and determination to search for basic truths, rather than pursuing only practical and immediate-payoff applications."



Joseph Henry's statue stands at the entrance to the Smithsonian Castle. Photograph by Rick Vargas, courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution.

Henry himself insisted—vehemently, if necessary—that basic research was of fundamental importance to American society, and as Secretary he molded the Smithsonian into a national and global clearinghouse for scientific research and the communication of scientific knowledge for the benefit of humanity. To do this, he personally corresponded with almost every scientist of significance in the United States and many overseas.

"It is in the study of objects considered trivial and unworthy of notice by the casual observer that genius finds the most important and interesting phenomena," Henry wrote in 1853, pointing out how Isaac Newton's study of soap bubbles eventually led to the wave theory of light and Luigi Galvani's research on the muscle contraction of a frog led to a new branch of science: electrochemistry.

"You can't understand America without understanding the history of American science and technology," says Rothenberg, "and to do that, you need to understand the central role played by Joseph Henry. His unique achievements gave science and basic research great political and public credibility."

In 1842, the famous English scientist Michael Faraday told one of Henry's students that "by far the greatest man of science your country has produced since Benjamin Franklin is Professor Henry." Most of Henry's contemporaries shared this view. Indeed, because of his own pioneering experiments with electricity, he was, with Franklin, a founding father of the Electric Age.



The Joseph Henry Papers staff, from left: Kathleen Dorman, assistant editor; Deborah Jeffries, historian; Frank Millikan, historian; and Marc Rothenberg, editor.

Though Henry published scientific papers on a wide variety of subjects—including acoustics, astrophysics, electricity, electromagnetism, meteorology, molecular forces, optics, sunspots, and terrestrial magnetism—his international scientific reputation was based primarily on his work in basic and applied electromagnetism.

Among his many discoveries and inventions in this field were mutual induction, self-induction, improved and sophisticated electromagnets, the electric relay, the concept of the electric transformer, and the electric motor—which runs everything from trains to vacuum cleaners and toothbrushes.

Henry's work in electromagnetic induction was the scientific foundation for the development of the telegraph and telephone, and thus the launching pad for the 19th-century communications revolution that forever changed human society.

Henry, an idealist, saw himself as a citizen scientist, with a social responsibility to apply scientific knowledge for the public good. Accordingly, he didn't patent his inventions, but made them freely available to others. In addition, he personally counseled Samuel F.B. Morse, who subsequently patented electromagnetic telegraphs in the United States, as well as Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone. While Bell gratefully acknowledged his debt to Henry, Morse disavowed Henry's impact on his work.

In 1846, Henry was elected the first Secretary of the Smithsonian on the proposition that the office should be held by the greatest living American scientist. As Secretary, Henry was advisor to presidents, cabinets, and members of Congress on all aspects of science and technology. He had tremendous influence on the careers of other scientists and the livelihoods of inventors. Even the future of various government scientific activities depended

in part on his support and his ability to convince members of Congress or cabinet members of their scientific value.

"His name has been for years a name of power, having the weight of recognized and fixed authority in all civilized lands," ran an article in the *New York Evening Post* following his death. "He sat for years at the receipt of customs in the world of investigation and discovery; he was father confessor to all searchers for scientific truth. To him all investigators came, as to a father, with reports of their triumphs, and through him their discoveries were made known to the world.... It was a place of great honor, great influence, great power that he held, and no man ever filled such a position more worthily."

In the days after Henry's death there was newspaper speculation about who might take his place. The consensus among his scientific peers, however, was that Henry had been unique, and his place could never be filled.

Recommended Reading:

Albert E. Moyer, *Joseph Henry: The Rise of an American Scientist* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1997). [The first scholarly biography of Henry in two generations. Its author is a professor of history at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.]

The eight volumes of *The Papers of Joseph Henry* published to date are available from the Smithsonian Institution Press. To order volumes of the Henry papers or Professor Moyer's biography, call 800-782-4612.

For more information about the Joseph Henry Papers Project, visit the project's home page on the Smithsonian Institution's Web site <www.si.edu>, or wrote to Marc Rothenberg, Joseph Henry Papers Project, MRC 429, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560.

Individual Applications Invited for Fellowship in Archival Administration

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) is now accepting applications from individuals for its Fellowship in Archival Administration, which provides advanced administrative training in archives. For the 1998-99 fellowship year, the stipend for the archival fellow is \$42,000 (includes fringe benefits). The fellowship is for a nine- to twelve-month period beginning between August and October 1998. The fellow will also have some funds available for professional travel during his/her fellowship year. The application postmark deadline is March 1, 1998.

Fellows are provided with a series of administrative and decision-making experiences. Included in past fellowships have been such diverse areas as appraisal, budget preparation, personnel administration, publications, plant operation, long-range planning, disaster planning, collection policy development, and committee activities. In addition to work in these areas of administration, the fellow is expected to complete a technical project. Administrative fellowship applicants should have between two and five years' experience in professional archival work. While not required, it is desirable that applicants have the equivalent of two semesters of full-time graduate training in a program containing an archival education component.

Host Institution: Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. The fellow will participate in all aspects of work at Mudd Library, which include, but are not limited to, preparing the library's annual report, participating in staff meetings, working with donors, preparing grant proposals, and budget development. For the technical project, the fellow will undertake a technical analysis of the Public Services unit to determine how the physical structure of the building hampers the reception, security, materials management, and photocopy operations of the library. In addition to the analytical report, the fellow will create a bibliography of existing publications relating to design of archival repositories and present several alternative plans for reconfiguration of the spaces in Mudd Library.



Individual Applications Sought for Documentary Editing Fellowship

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) is now accepting applications from individuals for its Documentary Editing Fellowship, which provides training in historical documentary editing at a project supported by the Commission. The stipend for the editing fellow is \$41,250 (includes fringe benefits). The fellowship is for an eleven-month period beginning between August and October 1998. In addition to attending the Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents held in June 1998 in Madison, Wisconsin, the fellow will have some funds available for professional travel during his/her fellowship year. Applicants should hold a Ph.D. or have completed all requirements for the doctorate except the dissertation. The application postmark deadline is March 1, 1998.

Host Project: The Correspondence of Lucretia Mott Project, Pomona College, Claremont, CA. The Correspondence of Lucretia Mott Project is an historical documentary edition based on the surviving correspondence relating to the life and work of women's rights leader and antislavery activist Lucretia Mott (1793-1880). After attending the Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents in June 1998, the fellow will begin work with the editor. While at the project, the fellow will assist the editor with every phase of work on the project, which includes selection, transcription, annotation, verification, and proofreading of documents.

Fellowship application forms and more complete descriptions of the program should be requested from the NHPRC, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Room 106, Washington, DC 20408-0001, (202) 501-5610 (voice); (202) 501-5601 (fax); nhprc@arch1.nara.gov (e-mail).

Following the March 1, 1998, deadline, the Commission will provide eligible fellowship application forms to the host institution, which will each select a fellow in the spring of 1998.

Documentary Editing Superlatives

The Illinois State Historical Society has presented its 1997 Superior Achievement Award to the Jane Addams Papers Project for its 1996 publication *The Jane Addams Papers: A Comprehensive Guide*, edited by Mary Lynn McCree Bryan, Nancy Slote, and Maree de Angury (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press), ISBN 0-253-21036-4. The guide constitutes a detailed index of Addams' writings and correspondence, two parts of the 82-reel microfilm edition of her papers released by the project in 1985. The Jane Addams Papers Project has also won the Western Association of Women Historians' 1997 Barbara Penny Kanner Award for excellence in bibliomethodology.

The Webwatch column in the September 1, 1997, issue of *Library Journal* reviewed the web site of the Freedmen and Southern Society Project, <<http://www.inform.umd.edu/ARHU/Depts/History/Freeman/home.html>>, as part of a survey of web sites on slavery. Columnist Thomas Jay Kemp praised the site, developed by project editor Leslie S. Rowland, as "the best organized source from which to hear the original voices of slaves and freedmen/women." *Annotation* congratulates Dr. Rowland and the project staff on this well-deserved mark of recognition, which demonstrates that technological advances can enhance public access to source materials at all levels.

NHPRC Application Deadlines

February 1, 1998 (for June meeting)

Proposals addressing the following objectives:

- To continue the current cooperative agreement whereby the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators informs the Commission on needs and progress nationally.

- To collaborate with the states to promote archival and records management by and among state and local governments.

- To assist new documentary projects, in various forms of publication, that help teachers improve history education and that help researchers pursue significant lines of inquiry in historical scholarship.

- To increase document use by teachers, students, scholars, and the public.

- To help carry out agendas for archival progress put forward by the Society of American Archivists and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, particularly to meet needs for preservation, planning, training, and institutional self-evaluation.

June 1, 1998 (for November meeting). Please note that this is the first deadline for which applications must comply with the new NHPRC guidelines.

Proposals addressing the following objectives:

- To provide the American public with widespread access to the papers of the founders of our democratic republic and its institutions by ensuring the timely completion of eight projects now in progress to publish the papers of George Washington, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and papers that document the Ratification of the Constitution, the First Federal Congress, and the early Supreme Court.

- To promote broad public participation in historical documentation by collaborating with State Historical Records Advisory Boards to plan and carry out jointly funded programs to strengthen the nation's archival infrastructure and expand the range of records that are protected and accessible.

- To enable the nation's archivists, records managers, and documentary editors to overcome the obstacles and take advantage of the opportunities posed by electronic technologies by continuing to provide leadership in funding research and development on appraising, preserving, disseminating, and providing access to important documentary sources in electronic form.

October 1, 1998 (for February meeting)

Proposals addressing the following objectives:

- To protect and otherwise make accessible historically significant records.

- To publish documentary editions other than the eight founding-era projects judged to be of critical importance.

- To improve the methods, tools, and training of professionals engaged in documentary work.

- To support other projects eligible for support within the Commission's statutory mission.

Application guidelines and forms may be requested from NHPRC, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Room 106, Washington, DC 20408-0001, (202) 501-5610 (voice), (202) 501-5601 (fax), <nhprc@arch1.nara.gov> (e-mail), or by accessing our web site at <<http://www.nara.gov/nara/nhprc/>>.

NHPRC Staff Changes

On September 18, 1997, John W. Carlin, Archivist of the United States and NHPRC Chair, announced a reorganization of his support staff in which Gerald George, then serving as NHPRC Executive Director, became Director of NARA's Policy and Communications Staff (NPOL) effective October 1, 1997. The Archivist also named Roger Bruns, former NHPRC Deputy Executive Director, then a member of NARA's communications staff, to serve as Acting NHPRC Executive Director. In accordance with the pertinent statute, the Commission will choose a permanent executive director after the prescribed selection process.

Dr. Joyce M. Ray, Assistant Program Director for Technological Evaluation, has left the Commission to become Director of Discretionary Programs for the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Dr. Ray, who also served as Acting

Program Director for parts of fiscal years 1996 and 1997, was with the Commission for a little over two years.

Staff Assistant Delores G. Taylor has left the Commission for a position in the Department of Agriculture. Ms. Taylor, who spent almost nine years with the Commission, is now with the civil rights staff of the Foreign Agricultural Service. Her competence and willingness to assist staff and Commission members had made her virtually indispensable in running the office.

Secretary Artesia Robinson has left the Commission for a position in the Department of Education. Ms. Robinson was with the Commission for two years, serving primarily in support of the program staff. She is now with the impact aid program of the Office of Elementary and Post-Secondary Education.

The Commission staff wishes its former colleagues well in their new endeavors, and welcomes Roger Bruns in his new capacity.

**National Historical Publications and Records
Commission (NHPRC)**

National Archives & Records Administration
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President Abraham Lincoln signs the charter of the National Academy of Sciences in 1863. Joseph Henry, depicted third from the left in this 1924 painting by Albert Herter, and the most famous American scientist of the 19th century, was instrumental in the Academy's establishment. An article on the Joseph Henry Papers project begins on page 11. Photograph courtesy of the National Academy of Sciences; Carol Highsmith, photographer.